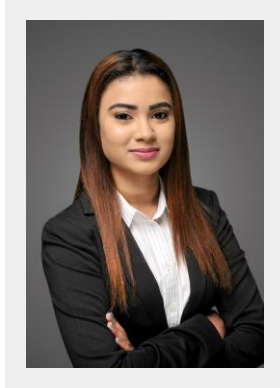




Summer 2021 EJA Fellow:



Name: Anisa Rahaman

Law School: Fordham University School of Law

Organization: The Legal Aid Society – Juvenile Rights Practice

Update 1:

It is hard to believe that I have already completed two weeks as an intern with The Legal Aid Society. This summer, I was generously selected as an Equal Justice America fellow to support my public interest work in the Juvenile Rights Practice Division of The Legal Aid Society. I can already tell that the work I will be doing will be within some of the most vulnerable communities. In less than two weeks I have already been able to appear on the record for a court hearing, speak with children, their parents and foster parents and conduct meaningful research to protect these kids and reunite families. I am grateful to have embarked upon this journey with support from Equal Justice America and Fordham University School of Law which makes it possible for generations of future lawyers to act on the urgent need of providing pro bono assistance to our most vulnerable community members.

Update 2:

Another EJA Fellow Update on my work with the Legal Aid Society: Over the past few weeks I have been able to cross examine witnesses from ACS, interview vulnerable children who would like to be reunited with their parents and draft motions so that minors are able to receive the services that they need to thrive such as individual therapy and special education classes.

Update 3:

Registered for classes for my last year of law school last week and accepted an offer for a new job all while making court appearances and getting a summer bonus at my current position with The Legal Aid Society.



Entry 4:

As of this week, I have completed my ten-week internship with The Legal Aid Society in their Juvenile Rights Practice division and begin my third and final year of school at Fordham University School of Law. This past summer, I have been able to virtually attend court hearings and see the impact of how not taking an entire day off to come to court has changed the dynamic for our low-income clients. I was also able to meet and interview clients and their families while they remained safe in their homes. Lastly, I was given the opportunity to work on meaningful research with attorneys to craft stronger cases to advocate for our clients so that they may be reunited with a family member or guardian where they felt safe. I look forward to beginning my final year of school with this new lens which has only strengthened my belief that this is the clientele that I would like to work with post-graduation. Throughout my internship I was grateful to be supported by Equal Justice America. Altruism is cost prohibitive so if you are able, please consider supporting Equal Justice America and allowing them to fund summers for those who want to help.